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SUBJECT: DAILY SUMMARY OF JAPANESE PRESS 10/01/09

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- (1) Pact with United States not only SOFA Japan has concluded

SANKEI (Page 7) (Abridged)  
October 1, 2009

Kunihiko Miyake, a visiting professor at Ritsumeikan University and research director of the Canon Institute for Global Studies

The propriety of "proposing" the revision of the Japan-U.S. Status

of Forces Agreement (SOFA) has been discussed lately. The pact with the United States is not the only SOFA Japan has concluded; Japan has concluded similar agreements with such countries as Kuwait and Djibouti since 2003.

Let us take a look at the agreement with Djibouti. It is formally called "Exchanges of Notes between the Government of Japan and the Government of the Republic of Djibouti concerning the status of the Self-Defense Forces of Japan, etc. in the Republic of Djibouti." The agreement contains a provision pertaining to criminal jurisdiction over SDF personnel sent to Djibouti.

According to the provision, Japanese personnel, including SDF personnel, are granted the privileges and immunities specified in the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations. The provision also stipulates that Japan "has the right to exercise within the territory of the Republic of Djibouti criminal jurisdiction and disciplinary powers over all (the Japanese) personnel."

In short, SDF personnel are exempt from Djiboutian criminal jurisdiction and are subject only to Japanese criminal jurisdiction. I believe the terms are the same in Kuwait and Iraq, where SDF personnel were also dispatched. Needless to say, the terms do not constitute a violation of sovereignty.

Although a simple comparison cannot be made, the Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement is generally favorable to Japan, the host nation. For instance, if an off-duty U.S. service member is caught red-handed by Japanese police, Japan will keep the service member in custody.

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If an off-duty U.S. service member commits a crime and is on a U.S. military base, the U.S. side will have custody of the individual until he or she is indicted in Japan. However, if accused of heinous crimes such as rape and murder, the service member can be transferred to Japanese custody prior to indictment.

Although their names differ, the Japan-U.S. and Japan-Djibouti agreements are equally effective. As far as criminal jurisdiction is concerned, Japan has more rights regarding foreign troops than Djibouti does.

The Japan-U.S. Status of Forces Agreement now in force gives Japan, the host nation, primary jurisdiction over U.S. service members who committed crimes while off duty, as is the case with NATO nations and South Korea. Further, Japan is a step ahead of other countries regarding the pre-indictment transfer of custody.

I do not think the Japan-U.S. SOFA is markedly unfair when viewed objectively.

In addition, a joint committee has been established to solve new problems under the SOFA. As a result of serious discussions between Japan and the United States over the last 50 years, a large number of agreements have been reached by joint committees and implemented. It can be said that the Japan-U.S. SOFA has been "revised" daily.

Some are calling for inclusion of environmental rights in the SOFA on the model of the German agreement. But in every instance of environmental pollution, the matter has been referred to a joint committee and settled according to local circumstances.

Of course, I do not mean to say that achievements until now have been sufficient. I support the idea of "proposing" the revision of the SOFA as necessary. However, I am deeply skeptical about the appropriateness of top Japanese and U.S. leaders taking political risks to discuss environmental cases amenable to effective solution by joint committee.

To deliver on what was promised in the manifesto (of the Democratic Party of Japan), it would be sufficient to order administrative officials to bring the question of environmental rights to the attention of the U.S. side at Japan-U.S. joint committee meetings. A raft of security issues require earnest discussion by Japan and the

United States. The new administration must use the assets conferred by its public mandate more effectively.

(2) Diversity seen in fundraising methods of Hatoyama administration's cabinet ministers

YOMIURI (Page 3) (Full)  
October 1, 2009

Political reporters Kenichi Aoyama, Junya Hashimoto

The political funds accounting reports of Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama and 17 cabinet ministers reflect the fact that the Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) is a potpourri of political forces, with its members ranging from former Japan Socialist Party members to former Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) members, and there is great diversity in their fundraising methods. While the party advocates a complete ban on donations from companies and organizations, the main

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source of income for many of its cabinet ministers is donations from companies or labor unions. It appears that there is a considerable gap between the DPJ's ideal and reality.

#### Manifesto

At a news conference held after the cabinet meeting on September 29, Health and Labor Minister Akira Nagatsuma said: "I don't think all corporate and organizational donations are evil, but there is the possibility of being misunderstood (being suspected of collusion)." He emphasized that he will not rely on corporate and organizational donations. In fact, Nagatsuma has not received any such donations. Of the total income of his fund management organization and the DPJ chapter he chairs, 70 percent (27.36 million yen) consisted of personal donations, while the rest was mostly government subsidy handed over from the party.

The share of corporate and organizational donations in Hatoyama's political funds is also negligible.

The DPJ submitted an amendment to the Political Funds Control Law to the House of Representatives in June that will impose a total ban on the purchase by companies and organizations of tickets for political fundraising parties in three years. This was also included in its campaign pledges (manifesto), and the party's policy is to "make efforts to enact this bill," according to Nagatsuma.

#### Corporate, organizational donations

However, powerful cabinet ministers in the party actually receive large amounts of donations from groups and companies, especially labor unions. If the law is enacted, some Diet members will lose a lucrative source of income.

Around 70-80 percent of the political funds of Minister of Economy, Trade, and Industry Masayuki Naoshima, Chief Cabinet Secretary Hirofumi Hirano, and Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries Hirotaka Akamatsu came from companies, labor unions, and other groups. All three are Diet members affiliated with Rengo (Japanese Trade Union Confederation), and they all receive large amounts of donations from the labor unions and related groups that they once belonged to.

In the case of Naoshima, 77 percent or 52.5 million yen of his total political funds came from groups related to the Federation of All Toyota Workers' Unions, where he used to be an official. Hirano received 51 million yen in donations from the Japanese Electrical, Electronic, and Information Union and Matsushita Electrical Co. (now Panasonic Corporation). Akamatsu not only received a total of 45 million yen from the All Japan Federation of Transport Workers' Unions and the All Nittsu Labor Union, but also raised funds from many businesses, including from the pachinko and fisheries industries. Organizational and corporate donations constituted 69 percent of his political funds.

Akamatsu said that he will "make efforts to switch to personal

donations from now on" at his news conference after the cabinet meeting on September 29, indicating that he will conform with the party's policy. But he also said: "It is too harsh to ask one person alone to stop right away."

LDP style

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Some cabinet ministers' main source of political funds is fundraising parties, which is similar to the style of the LDP.

Income from fundraising parties and other activities constituted a significant part of Foreign Minister Katsuya Okada's political funds. His fund management group, the "Katsuya Okada Support Organization" raised 94.57 million yen by holding seven "political and economic seminars" in Tokyo and his constituency in Mie, and this made up 64 percent of his total funds.

Since the DPJ has decided to ban the purchase of tickets for fundraising parties by companies and groups, party members complain that "it is now difficult to ask companies and organizations to buy tickets." It is possible that there might be a significant change in the DPJ Diet members' fundraising methods when the 2009 political funds accounting reports are issued next year.

Ozawa's group sold some properties

How about the coffers of Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa, the real power holder in the Hatoyama administration? His government-paid first secretary has been arrested for receiving illegal donations from second-tier general contractor Nishimatsu Construction Co.

The total income of Ozawa's fund management group Rikuzan-kai, the DPJ chapter in the fourth district of Iwate, and five other political groups related to Ozawa in 2008 was 240.79 million yen (excluding funds carried over from last year and redundant entries). The Rikuzan-kai's income, including redundant entries, was 163.03 million yen, representing an increase of 57 percent over the previous year. This made up 70 percent of total political funds.

The Rikuzan-kai is the only fundraising group of Diet members at the national level that owns real property. The increase in its income was from the sale of a property in Tokyo worth 110 million yen in July 2008, which was logged as "miscellaneous income." This property is the land and building formerly used by the International Exchange Foundation, which Ozawa chairs, as its office. Ozawa's office explained that, "Since the Foundation is having financial difficulties, we donated the property."

The Nishimatsu scandal is related to Nishimatsu's alleged political donations in 1997-2006 to Rikuzan-kai and two other groups using the names of fictitious political groups in order for the donations not to be traced.

The Rikuzan-kai received 52.59 million yen in donations in 2008, of which 15.57 million yen was personal donations, while 37.02 million yen was from political groups.

The breakdown is as follows: 21 million yen from the DPJ chapter in the fourth district of Iwate, which Ozawa chairs; 12 million yen from the political group "Ichiro Ozawa Political and Economic Study Group"; 1 million yen from the Nippon Pharmacy Association; and so forth. Four fundraising parties were held in 2008, generating 63.49 million yen in income. The DPJ chapter in the fourth district of Iwate, which is the only body receiving corporate and organizational donations, obtained donations from companies and other organizations to the amount of 25.17 million yen (18 percent less than the previous year).

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As of the end of 2008, the Rikuzan-kai owned properties in Tokyo, Iwate, and Miyagi worth 924.29 million yen which were used as

offices and housing for secretaries. According to the real estate registers, the Rikuzan-kai sold two more properties on July 10, 2009, so it currently owns properties worth 867.54 million yen. Ozawa's office says it is "taking the appropriate procedures in the order of properties that can be disposed of most easily."

The Political Funds Control Law has prohibited the acquisition of new properties by politicians' fund management groups since 2007. Reports on the state of usage are required for properties acquired before that date.

(3) Ozawa continues to give top priority to elections; DPJ members dissatisfied with delay in party appointments

YOMIURI (Page 4) (Full)  
October 1, 2009

Democratic Party of Japan (DPJ) Secretary General Ichiro Ozawa gave his first news conference after becoming the party's secretary general on September 30. He took a bullish stance on the House of Councillors election in summer 2010, planning to field two official candidates in the two-seat constituencies. He thus demonstrated his intention to lead the party's election campaign. DPJ members have expressed dissatisfaction with Ozawa's management of the party because he has refused to reveal his appointments to key positions.

Ozawa's first news conference was held in Shizuoka City because he was there to announce the candidacy of Hirokazu Tsuchida, 59, chairman of a medical corporation, in the Upper House by-election in Shizuoka Prefecture on October 25. Ozawa said: "The DPJ alone still does not control a majority in the Upper House. This by-election concerns a very important seat. We will give all possible support (to Tsuchida)," expressing his enthusiasm for this election.

Another Upper House by-election is also taking place in Kanagawa Prefecture on the same day. The DPJ hopes to win both elections, riding on its momentum in the recent House of Representatives election, and keep this momentum until the full Upper House election.

Ozawa has continued to give top priority to elections in his activities even after the Lower House election.

At his news conference on September 30, Ozawa also said, "We will seek the support of all groups that have expectations on the new administration," hinting at his desire to co-opt the support groups of the Liberal Democratic Party. Ozawa will head for Kobe City on October 1 to announce the candidate endorsed by the DPJ in the mayoral election there.

No one in the DPJ is in a position to complain about Ozawa's campaign strategy right now.

Participants in a forum for newly elected DPJ Diet members held in Tokyo on the evening of September 29 lavished praises on Ozawa. Lower House member Yukiko Miyake said: "Prime Minister Hatoyama will have to excuse me when I say that anybody can become a prime minister, but Mr. Ozawa is the only person who can do what Mr. Ozawa is doing. He is a genius when it comes to elections."

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However, there is also dissatisfaction with Ozawa in the party.

Ozawa has still not announced the appointments for deputy secretary general, who assists the secretary general, the chairman of the election strategy committee, and other key positions. There are speculations that "Mr. Ozawa begrudges the smooth launching of the Hatoyama administration, and he has not announced the appointments because he is unhappy."

Diet members who did not get an appointment in the administration also complain about the abolition of the DPJ's policy research bodies at Ozawa's suggestion, which has made the submission of bills by Diet members more difficult. They are saying: "We have no more work to do."

Ozawa has not held the secretary general's regular news conference even once after taking office. Some Diet members fear that "this may result in insufficient publicity for the party."

A veteran Diet member explains that, "Not saying much in order to strengthen his leadership is the Ozawa style. DPJ Diet members are all unsettled by this Ozawa style."

(4) China trying to expand its territorial waters in "sea of fraternity"; Deploys research vessel near Senkaku to continue work at gas field

YOMIURI (Top play) (Abridged)  
September 30, 2009

In early August, a large Chinese oceanographic research vessel suddenly approached the 12 nautical miles (about 22 kilometers) of Japanese waters around Uotsuri Island in the Senkaku Islands in Okinawa Prefecture in the East China Sea. A Japan Coast Guard (JCG) patrol boat then placed itself between the island and the Chinese research vessel, and the two faced off against each other across the territorial waters line. They were only 200 to 300 meters away from each other.

The JCG patrol boat issued a Chinese-language message ordering the research vessel to immediately leave the Japanese waters. But the Chinese vessel did not budge.

"This type of occurrence has now become an everyday event," said a source connected with the 11th Regional Japan Coast Guard Headquarters. Late last year China, which has claimed its sovereignty over the Senkaku Islands, permanently deployed a research vessel in waters near the islands. The Chinese research vessel faces Japanese territorial waters around the clock. It is no longer unusual for the research vessel to enter Japanese territorial waters.

The permanent deployment of the research vessel is tantamount to China's declaration that the Senkaku Islands, which are called Diaoyu in China, are in Chinese territory. The move reflects China's naval expansion and intention to secure resources resulting from its economic growth. Given slim chances of a showdown with the United States, China has begun making serious efforts to expand its territorial waters.

Such an attempt is evident in gas fields in the East China Sea as well. Japan and China agreed last year to jointly develop the

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Shirakaba gas field, or Chunxiao in Chinese, and to continue discussions on Kashi, or Tianwaitian. Despite the agreement, China's work at the Kashi drilling facility was observed from a Yomiuri helicopter on Sept. 25.

On Sept. 21, Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama said to Chinese President Hu Jintao that they should turn (the East China Sea) into a "sea of fraternity." The reality is a far cry from a "sea of fraternity."

China is trying to expand its territorial waters in the South China Sea as well.

In late August, fighters took off from Vietnam's Danang coast facing the South China Sea. Six countries and areas, including China and Vietnam, have claimed sovereignty over the Spratly (Nansha) Islands in the South China Sea. China has sent new and powerful naval vessels there one after another. (China) has built the world's largest submarine base on Hainan Island, according to a military source.

A senior Vietnamese government official in Hanoi has acknowledged his government's plan to purchase six Kilo-class submarines from Russia, saying that China is posing a clear threat. Vietnam had naval clashes with China in the South China Sea in 1974 and 1988. "Another clash might be inevitable," a Vietnamese Foreign Ministry source said with a worried look on his face.

China is being driven by the ambition to secure its national interests in the name of "sovereignty." The world and Japan are now faced with a new form of unilateralism.

(5) Field report from Afghanistan: Poor security situation obstacle to civilian aid

YOMIURI (Pages 1, 3) (Full)  
September 28, 2009

Michinobu Yanagisawa

Darvan Village, Panjshir Province, eastern Afghanistan - Prime Minister Yukio Hatoyama has just completed his first visit to the United States after assuming office on September 26. While he is saying that the refueling mission in the Indian Ocean "will not simply be extended," he has indicated an idea to focus on "civilian aid," such as agricultural instruction and vocational training, in Japan's contributions for Afghanistan. Thus, civilian aid is certain to emerge as a key issue in the Japan-U.S. relationship. However, there are numerous obstacles at the sites of aid operations, the most serious of which is the security situation.

In mid-September, we traveled with the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) to the province of Panjshir, where streams flow rapidly through the mountains of bare rock.

A young man screamed at the U.S. forces' convoy in fury at the foot of the bridge: "Infidels!" U.S. soldiers alighted from their vehicles and tried to pacify him politely, telling him in English and the local Dari dialect, "We are here to help you," as prescribed in the handbook they were given.

Eight years have passed since the U.S. began its military attack after the 9/11 terrorist attacks. The action program announced by

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ISAF in August emphasizes the importance of the construction of power plants, schools, and other projects as civilian aid that will win the local residents' support and prevent the penetration of the radicals, in addition to military action.

Lt. Col. Eric Hommel, 43, commander of the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) consisting of both military and civilian personnel in Panjshir Province, said: "For now, our mission is to raise the children and work for stability in Afghanistan." He then pointed at the newly completed middle school building in the nearby Darvan Village.

The Japanese government has also dispatched four Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MOFA) officials to participate in the PRT in Ghor Province in midwest Afghanistan last June to work on the construction of schools and other projects. Senior officers of the U.S. forces in Afghanistan have expressed their hope for the dispatch of Japanese officials to train police officers, which is indispensable for improving the security situation. However, public safety continues to deteriorate. Hommel's predecessor actually died from a suicide bomb attack in May.

Hommel sighed and said: "I did not tell my wife about the death of my predecessor because she would worry."

There are expectations on Japan to play a bigger role in civilian aid for Afghanistan. This is an important component of the U.S. forces' new policy of watering down the "war against terrorism" aspect and giving greater priority to social stability.

Reflection on operations so far

The background to the importance given to civilian aid is the lesson learned from the fact that past that mop-up operations against insurgents have resulted in many civilian casualties, and this has, in turn, given rise to the people's hatred and helped the armed insurgents to gain momentum. Furthermore, there is also an assessment that a "majority" of those who joined the armed insurgent

groups "did so for money" (according to a NATO source), and so if their livelihoods improve, they will leave these groups.

The handbook given out to U.S. soldiers operating in Afghanistan asks them to speak as humbly as possible when there is trouble with the local residents. Making the people understand that the foreign troops are exerting their utmost efforts to improve the people's lives is an important part of current operations.

However, prospects are dim for any dramatic improvement in the security situation right now. As many as 370 soldiers have been killed since January, which is the highest rate since the collapse of the Taliban regime.

#### Power of the authorities

There is also concern that the increasing number of aid projects may exacerbate corruption in the Afghan government. The views of the Afghan and provincial governments are respected in the selection of projects to be funded by the PRTs in order to avoid the criticism that the U.S. is pulling the strings behind the scenes in civilian aid. However, with increasing power in the hands of the Afghan authorities, there is concern that "corruption and embezzlement may also increase," according to a U.S. diplomat in Afghanistan.

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The prolonged confusion over the presidential election in August has also had an adverse effect. Panjshir is the political base of former Foreign Minister Abdullah Abdullah, President Hamid Karzai's rival candidate who blasted the president's camp for "cheating." The above U.S. diplomat is worried that "if Mr. Karzai's reelection becomes final, projects in this province may be deferred."

In this election, the Abdullah camp has denounced the Karzai camp's "cheating," and it is thought that finalizing the election results will take a few months. Reconstruction projects will inevitably be suspended during this period.

#### Expectations of Japan

Hisako Ishizaki, 31, a MOFA official who is a member of the PRT in Ghor Province, said that, "We would like to push the projects forward as much as possible before the severe winter begins." She spends her days going around the construction sites of schools and clinics with NGO members with the protection of Lithuanian armored vehicles.

The headache of Rashid Bashir, deputy chief at the Ghor Province police headquarters in Chagcharan, is that "we are very short of personnel." The police force of Ghor now has 900 officers. While there have not been serious terrorist incidents recently, Rashid said he needs 1,600 men to patrol the hundreds of kilometers of highway linking Ghor with the Taliban strongholds in the southern province of Helmand and the western province of Herat.

The expansion of the police force is a major component of civilian aid. While the army is responsible for mopping up the armed insurgents, the police force is indispensable for investigations, check points, and other such mundane activities to nip terrorism in the bud.

Major General Richard Formica, commander of the Combined Security Transition Command, which is responsible for the reinforcement of the Afghan armed forces and police force, admitted that, "The development of the police force is behind (that of the armed forces) by several years. This spring, Japan provided 125 million dollars (approximately 11.1 billion yen) to pay for half of the salaries of Afghan police officers, among other things. Formica said that he is hoping for contributions from Japan both in terms of money and training, voicing his expectation for the dispatch of Japanese police officers.

However, in addition to requests for civilian aid, there are high expectations from the U.S. and the international community for the refueling mission in the Indian Ocean. Even Afghanistan has asked

Japan to continue this operation "as aid in the war against Al Qaeda." (Foreign Minister Rangin Dadfar Spanta) The refueling mission is highly appreciated by the participants in "Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF)," which aims at mopping up the armed insurgents. Maneuvering between Japan and the U.S. relating to the expiration of the mission is expected to continue.

The international community's efforts for the stability of Afghanistan consist of two main components: "Operation Enduring Freedom," which is under NATO command and is led by the U.S. forces to mop up the Taliban and other armed insurgents, and ISAF, which supports the Afghan government's security efforts indirectly. A

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total of 100,000 troops are engaged in these operations.

OEF is part of the "war against terrorism" which started with the attack on the Taliban regime in October 2001 after the 9/11 terrorist attacks, under which special forces are assigned to attack the terrorist groups directly. Nearly 40,000 troops are involved, with more than 30,000 of them U.S. troops.

On the other hand, the main task of ISAF is to train Afghan security forces and support the disarming of the people. ISAF was set up under a UN Security Council resolution in December 2001. NATO has taken over the command since 2003. Forty-two countries deploy a total of 64,500 troops for this purpose, and about 30,000 are U.S. soldiers.

However, at present, 80 percent of the troops engaged in the OEF have been assigned to train security forces in order to strengthen the powers of the Afghan government. Therefore, the boundary between OEF and ISAF activities has become ambiguous.

The Obama administration announced the deployment of an additional 21,000 troops in Afghanistan in March. Gen Stanley McChrystal, commander of U.S. forces who is also the ISAF commander, is said to have requested the additional troops. However, U.S. papers have reported that some administration officials favor reducing the troop level in Afghanistan and devoting more troops to attacking Al Qaeda bases in Pakistan. Therefore, it is unclear whether additional troops will actually be sent to Afghanistan.

There are PRTs engaged in reconstruction aid by both military and civilian personnel under ISAF command in 26 different locations in Afghanistan right now. Japan sent its first civilian officials to a PRT under the protection of Lithuanian troops in June.

#### (6) Message to the nation

PRIME MINISTER OF JAPAN AND HIS CABINET (website)  
September 26, 2009

Yukio Hatoyama

After all the G-20 meetings were over, I called on President Barack Obama to say good-bye. I said, "This morning, I had pancakes at Pamela's Diner (his favorite pancakes)." The President immediately beamed with joy and said, "Did you like them? I wish I could have joined you." He seemed really happy. The President seems to have mentioned this episode in a news conference. The Barack-Yukio relationship has made a smooth start.

I visited the United States only five days after the change of government. But my apprehension was utterly groundless. I received heartfelt blessings from all the top leaders I met. My reception was probably helped by our overwhelming victory in the election. They were filled with expectations that with this victory Japanese politics will change. My address at the United Nations Summit on Climate Change, held the day after I arrived in the United States, was a great success in underscoring that Japan has actually changed. I presented a bold mid-term greenhouse-gas-emission-cut target, albeit based on the participation of other major countries. The target was highly evaluated for having significantly lightened the heavy atmosphere owing to COP15 being near at hand. If someone must step up for the survival of mankind and to save lives, then let

Japan serve as the chief flag waver. The Japanese people, who possess a high level of science and technology, will be able to clear the target without fail.

I delivered a speech at the UN Security Council Summit on Nuclear Nonproliferation and Nuclear Disarmament on the fourth day. (Representing) the only country to have suffered an atomic attack, I expressed my resolve to take the lead, along with President Obama, in making the world free from nuclear weapons. Afterward, I addressed the UN General Assembly, and declared that Japan will serve as a bridge for the globe, while disseminating the spirit of "yuai" (fraternity) to the world.

The venue shifted from New York to Pittsburgh for the last two days. There the G-20 energetically conducted four meetings, including working dinners and lunches. Heated debate on financial and economic affairs took place. I was skeptical about making decisions at a roundtable of 25 to 50 people. Contrary to my expectations, the meetings produced a report thanks to the skillful steering of the event by President Obama and the sherpas.

The simultaneous occurrence of the United Nations and G-20 meetings allowed me to hold talks with other countries' top leaders in a relaxed atmosphere. That is now an invaluable asset for me. With President Obama, I was able to frankly discuss the abduction issue, North Korea's nuclear development, aid to Afghanistan, and other matters. To President Hu Jintao, I proposed turning the East China Sea into a "sea of fraternity." The President agreed to my proposal. To Russian President Dmitry Medvedev, I proposed to resolve the Northern Territories issue within our generation and to conclude a peace treaty. It was also fortunate that I was able to have talks with the top leaders of Britain, Australia, South Korea, India, Indonesia, Vietnam, and Canada.

New Japanese diplomacy has taken a step forward. I firmly believe that this will serve the national interests of Japan without fail. I will do my best to meet your expectations. Please give the new administration your heartfelt blessing.

ROOS